

(c) the value and quantity of the above items exported during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) and (b) International trade in agricultural products depends on variety of factors including production and availability of domestic surplus, international demand, the commodities traded, consumer preferences, price competitiveness due to high procurement prices domestically and the ability to meet delivery schedule.

(c) The value and quantity of wheat, rice, sugar and cotton exported during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 is as under:—

Quantity: 000' tonnes

Value: Rs. in crores.

	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Wheat	1.52	0.40	1.76	1.36	0.02	0.02
Rice	2389.06	3371.00	4963.68	6280.76	1823.15	3105.37
Sugar	173.28	244.45	12.74	17.36	7.04	10.77
Cotton	157.53	821.89	41.96	206.92	16.75	80.67
Incl. waste						

Source: DGCI & S, Department of Commerce, Calcutta.

Pending cases before National Consumer Commission

†2063. **SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI:** Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Consumer Commission have any case under its consideration in which it had been decided to recover the amount of penalty from the salaries of officers considering them guilty to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

compensate the loss incurred by consumer on account of shortcomings in service rendered by State Consumer Court instead of recovering it from Government but these officers have appealed before the Commission on Government expenses against such a decision.

(b) if so, what are the details thereof alongwith the number of cases lying pending with the Commission and since when these have been pending; and

(c) what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) As informed by National Commission, no such case is pending to the knowledge of the Commission.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

National Foodgrains Storage Policy

†2064. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is going to implement National Foodgrains Storage Policy;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the construction work for new godowns is being handed over to the private sector under the new foodgrains storage policy;

(c) if so, whether steps have been taken to protect the interests of the consumers under this policy; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The policy envisages encouragement of private sector to build storage capacities in which they will store and maintain the foodgrains

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